

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD COCKFIGHTING MEASURE INCLUDED IN FARM BILL CONFERENCE REPORT LEGISLATION BANS INTERSTATE TRANSPORT OF ROOSTERS FOR COCKFIGHTING PURPOSES

Washington, D.C. – A three year battle by U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) to outlaw the interstate transportation of roosters for the purpose of “cockfighting” met with success Wednesday when the legislation was included in the Farm Bill Conference Report.

“After more than a three year battle, we have finally achieved victory,” said Allard. “As a veterinarian, I view cockfighting as an inherently cruel and inhumane practice. I am pleased we are bringing parity to the laws governing animal fighting and giving law enforcement officials greater leverage to enforce state laws banning cockfighting.”

Allard began his effort to plug the cockfighting loophole in Animal Welfare Act in January, 1999. He successfully attached his legislation to the Farm Bill earlier this year during markup of the bill before the Senate Agriculture Committee.

The legislation prohibits the interstate transportation of roosters for the purpose of “cockfighting.” Persons violating the law could be fined up to \$15,000 per incident and be imprisoned up to one year in jail.

The legislation must still be approved by both the House and Senate and signed by President Bush, which could happen by the end of the month.